

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Day's Log Of Police Calls Traces Racial Disturbance Shock Waves

A partial log of police radio calls gives a picture of how yesterday's violence progressed.

A.M.

8:30: Helicopter 201 reported students gathering at Hamilton High School.

8:55: Disturbance reported in office at South Side High School, 1550 Prospect.

8:55: Cars called to check disturbance at Lester School.

9:00: Helicopter said group of 200 to 300 students going west on Kerr from Hamilton, all in street blocking traffic.

9:01: Part of Hamilton group went behind buildings on Kerr and picked up stones and bottles.

9:03: Students at Hamilton began attacking officers on scene with bricks and bottles.

9:03: Additional cars ordered to Hamilton School.

9:10: Police Chief J. C. Macdonald ordered cars at Hamilton School to move back from crowd.

9:11: Group of 150-200 reported moving north on Englewood from Trigg, street blocked.

9:12: Helo 201 ordered officers to assist other officers being attacked with bricks and bottles at Hamilton.

9:14: Students at Hamilton moved back, then surged in another attack on officers.

9:14: Chief Macdonald asked officers at Hamilton if they had done everything they could do. Response affirmative.

9:14: Macdonald ordered officers to use tear gas at Hamilton if necessary.

9:15: All cars alert broadcast.

9:15: Helo 201 said group at Hamilton scattering. Chief Macdonald then said pull men back, don't charge the crowd.

9:17: Ambulance requested for Hamilton High School, two reported injured.

9:20: Groups scattered at Hamilton, but attempting to regroup.

9:24: Officers pulled back onto Wilson from Hamilton School. Helicopter said about 150 still milling around outside.

9:29: Crowd of 200 reported marching west from LeMoyné College.

9:31: Second helicopter will be put into the air within an hour (No. 421).

9:33: Chief Macdonald requested and got representatives from Clayborn Temple to go to Hamilton to try to quiet students.

9:40: Helicopter 201 reported group of 200 moving on Mississippi at Crump blocking street.

9:42: Chief Macdonald asked officers if any tear gas was used at Hamilton school. Reply was negative. gas not used at any time.

9:52: Fire and Police Director Frank C. Holloman said he believed one youth injured at Hamilton. One officer hit with brick (treated at No. 22 Fire Station). Two arrests made.

10:00: Helicopter said group in front of Clayborn Temple about 2,000.

10:03: Q & S Liquor Store at 246 Vance raided by about 25 men, taking liquor. Store ordered closed.

10:07: Cars called to Booker T. Washington School, disturbance.

10:10: Helicopter said streets moving from Booker T. Washington Temple were packed with people.

10:14: Group of about 150 moving from Booker T. Washington School.

10:20: Disturbance reported at South Side High School. 15 to 20 youths armed with chains got into two cars and left.

10:20: Disturbance at Carver School, 1591 Pennsylvania.

10:30: Dr. Martin Luther King reported at Airport.

10:53: Dr. King reported at Clayborn Temple.

11:03: Helicopter reported 15 to 25 youths with sticks and rocks moving from Fourth and Beale toward Hernando.

11:05: Asst. Chief Henry Lux reports march underway.

11:06: Helicopter estimated

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 3 - 29 - 68
Edition:
Author:
Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
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between 5,000 and 6,000 in march.

11:08: Officer at head of march said "several hundred newsmen preceding this march."

11:09: 15 to 20 youths with sticks moving west on Beale to Main.

11:17: Helo 201 said a third helicopter was in the air interfering with police helicopters "came within 100 feet of us."

11:21: Chief Lax reported marchers breaking out windows "tearing up everything" at Second and Beale and Main and Gayoso. "They're running in all directions."

11:22: Chief MacDonald said "Do not use gas except as a last resort."

11:22: Mr. Holloman placed call to Greg O'Neal, chief, Tennessee Highway Patrol.

11:24: Main march was held up at Main and Gayoso, 15 or 20 persons reported attacking a car on Front south of Beale.

11:24: Helicopter told motorcycle officers in front of parade to clear everyone off streets in front of march.

11:25: Helicopter 421 said group was breaking windows at Main and McCall.

11:27: Mobs reported breaking windows and looting York Arms Co. at 162 South Main.

11:27: Chief Lax said march seems to have no leader at this point, the Rev. Lawson and Dr. King asked for police car to take them from the area.

11:28: Chief MacDonald ordered march broken up after officers on scene requested permission. Most of main group of marchers had already started moving back to Clayborn Temple.

11:30: Officers asked assistance at Main and Beale.

11:30: Looting of stores at Third and Beale began. Pawn shops on.

11:31: Mr. Holloman talked to Mayor Harry Loeb. "You call the Governor and I'll call in the Guard," he said.

11:35: Officers in trouble at Main and Beale. One officer stranded, surrounded by crowd, picked up by two women in a Cadillac and driven from area.

11:35: Ambulance called to Third and Beale.

11:40: Officers called for help at Beale and Hernando.

11:41: Ambulance called to Second and Beale.

11:43: Area around Clayborn Temple ordered cleared. Disturbance developing there.

11:45: Permission asked to use gas on streets at Clayborn Temple. Crowd dispersed with gas.

11:46: Groups reported breaking windows at Adams and Washington and at Fourth and Vance.

11:48: Groups at Clayborn Temple began throwing rocks and bottles at officers.

11:51: Officer hurt at Hernando and Vance, ambulance en route.

11:55: Lt. Col. James Brown announced to Holloman National Guard alerted.

11:56: Disturbance intensifying at Clayborn Temple. P.M.

12:01: Officers called for help at Clayborn Temple.

12:05: O'Dell Sutton (Community Relations Service, Justice Department) called Holloman to ask for help of officers to get women and children out of Clayborn Temple.

12:08: Chief MacDonald told officers to help remove women and children who wished to leave from temple.

12:13: Officers arrive at Clayborn Temple to help remove women and children but about 250 people in front of temple interfere.

12:18: Mr. Holloman talked to representative of temple group, asked temple be closed.

12:19: The Rev. Ralph Jackson at temple said people would leave there if police left the area.

12:22: Fire equipment escorted to scene of fire at Fourth and Vance. 50 to 75 youths interfering.

12:23: Public address system

needed at Clayborn Temple to talk to people to try to calm them down. None leaving.

12:25: Breaking and looting reported at Mississippi and Walker and Mississippi and Georgia.

12:24: Chief MacDonald told officers to give people plenty of time to leave Clayborn Temple; "Don't rush them."

12:34: Fire Chief Eddie Hamilton called Mr. Holloman to say National Guard was calling some of his men — "we'll need all the firemen we have. Holloman called Colonel Brown who told firemen not to answer the Guard call.

12:45: Sears, Roebuck Store at 900 South Third reported being looted. Groups at Hernando and Linden breaking store windows.

12:51: All police cars ordered to stay away from Clayborn Temple because people there harassing officers.

12:51: Ambulance called to 243 Hernando, injured officer.

12:52: Looter shot at 900 South Fourth. Youths reported looting stores in that area. (Fatally shot was Larry Payne, 26, of 3023 Parker Road).

12:54: Looting reported at 903 South Third.

12:59: Groups start leaving temple, throwing rocks at officers.

1:01: Assistance to officers sent to Clayborn Temple.

1:02: Officers asked permission to use tear gas in front of temple.

1:06: Governor signed authorization for curfew.

1:08: Cleaners being looted at Mississippi and Georgia.

1:11: Car called for assistance at Lauderdale and Porter.

1:13: Looting reported at 346 Vance.

1:15: Frank Ragsdale, Memphis Transit Authority, told by Holloman "I don't think you ought to run buses in south area. But please keep enough to help us." Bus service discontinued at 1:20 p.m.

1:16: Callers accused officers of invading Clayborn Temple and using tear gas. Officers on scene denied.

1:20: Mr. Holloman talked to a Mr. Daugherty at Temple. He said, "Your people are getting bricks from back of temple, going through building, throwing them at officers in front. Asked Mr. Daugherty to do the best he could with people down there.

1:26: Disturbance at Booker T. Washington School, about 20 or 30 arrested (early report).

1:27: The Rev. Mr. Jackson called Mr. Holloman and asked him to come to the temple. "We're trying our best to get things back to a proper level. Rioting all over town. I can't cope there," he said.

1:30: Breaking and looting reported at Fourth and Vance.

1:45: Negro youths reported trying to start fire at Hernando and Fourth. The group broke off action with arrival of police.

1:51: Reports started coming in from north end, looting reported at Decatur and Ayres.

2:02: Helicopter 421 spotted windows broken at Lane and Ayres and Lane and Decatur.

2:03: Molotov cocktail thrown starting fire at Fourth and Vance.

2:05: Looter shot at but not hit at Vance and Hernando. Apprehended.

2:08: Tear gas used on group at Linden and Danny Thomas.

2:08: Disturbance at 1333 Florida.

2:09: Crowd dispersed from gathering at Fourth and Beale.

The radios crackled constantly through the rest of the afternoon and into the early morning hours with reports of fires, looting—mainly of liquor stores, snack stores and groceries and hardware stores. Police said they could not even manage a count of places looted.